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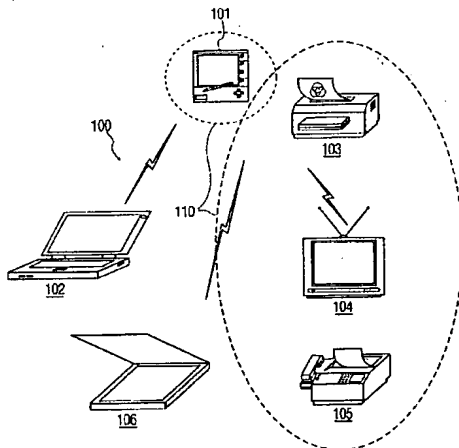
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: PROXIMITY DETECTION FOR SHORT RANGE COMMUNICATION



(57) Abstract: A method and system are provided for electronic devices (10i, 30i, 40i, 50i, 60i) in a home network to have a sense area (310) for detecting one another. This sense area (310) eliminates participation of outsiders in a home network (100, 300, 400, 500, 600). To allow sense areas that are particular (110) to a given device type, in an alternative embodiment, the size and shape of the particularized (110) sense areas can be made to depend on device characteristics, such as portability, and the sensitivity of the device can be adjusted to meet device requirements. Devices (10i, 30i, 40i, 50i, 60i) are placed near to one another to form a network and if no device is sensed communication and display of one another's user interfaces is optionally disabled so others cannot see the device, e.g., when the device (10i, 30i, 40i, 50i, 60i) is removed from its home network (100, 300, 400, 500, 600).

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**Declarations under Rule 4.17:**

— as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent (Rule 4.17(ii)) for the following designations AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW, ARIPO patent (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT,

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